

The background of the slide is a dark blue, semi-transparent image of a shipping yard. It shows tall stacks of intermodal containers in various shades of blue and grey. In the center, a yellow forklift is visible, lifting a container. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting an industrial or warehouse environment.

THE **DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION** IMPERATIVE IN
A POST-COVID 19 WORLD

THE NEW NORMAL IS DIGITAL

This year has brought as much change to the supply chain as any in recent history. Central to that change has been digital transformation. Digitization efforts that were either being put off or taking place gradually have been put into third gear. As a result, the speed of digitization has multiplied many times over, with potentially years of digital progress having taken place in months.



A DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

That raises the question as to why digital transformation is so important to supply chain viability in this new era. Keeping in mind that digitization, of course, has a large number of benefits to supply chain operations, many of which will have only tangential usefulness in combating disruptive forces like COVID-19. Then, the more precise question is: What are the most notable digital benefits for supply chains in regards to overcoming pandemic or pandemic-like impediments?

With all that said, here are the main reasons companies need to have digitized supply chains in this new post-COVID 19 landscape in order to stay competitive from here on out.



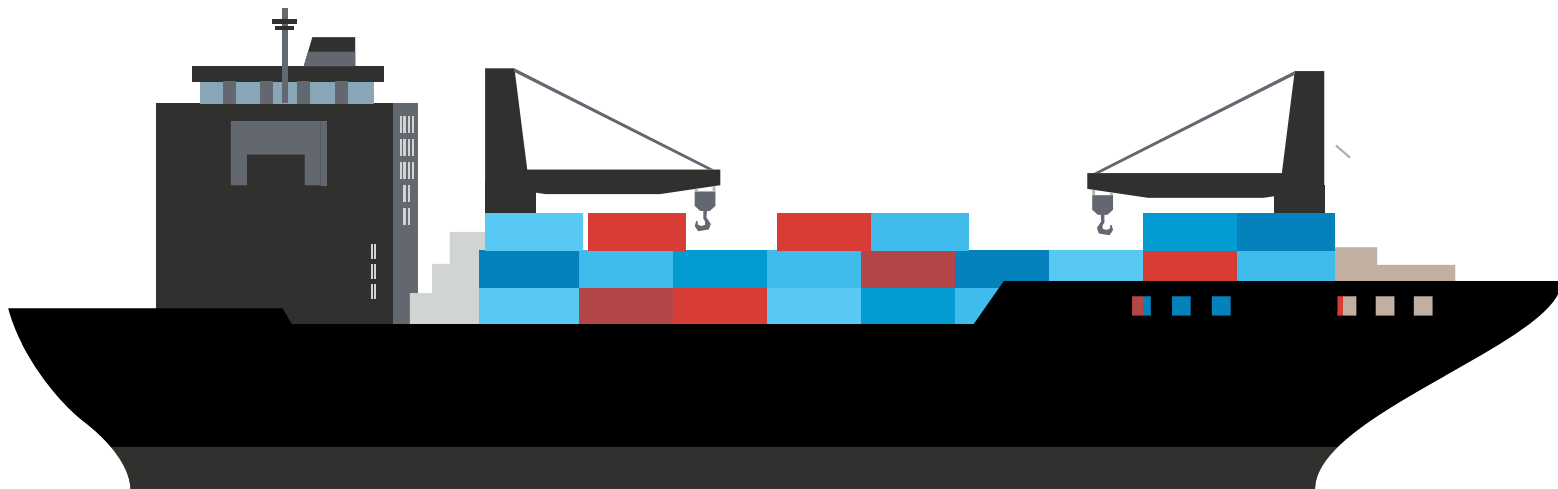
AGILITY

If this pandemic has highlighted anything, it's that, even more than forecasting, agility is what saves supply chains from being brought to a halt. Where supply chains once put their efforts into efficiency, they now need to make agility a focus of theirs. This is because a supply chain being agile means adaptability and responsiveness to whatever the market throws at it.

AGILITY

NOTABLE BENEFITS

- Ability to quickly respond to market changes (greater demand, changing geographies, etc.)
- The flexibility to switch between the manufacturing of varying products
- Increases the possibility of dealing with future large-scale disruptions



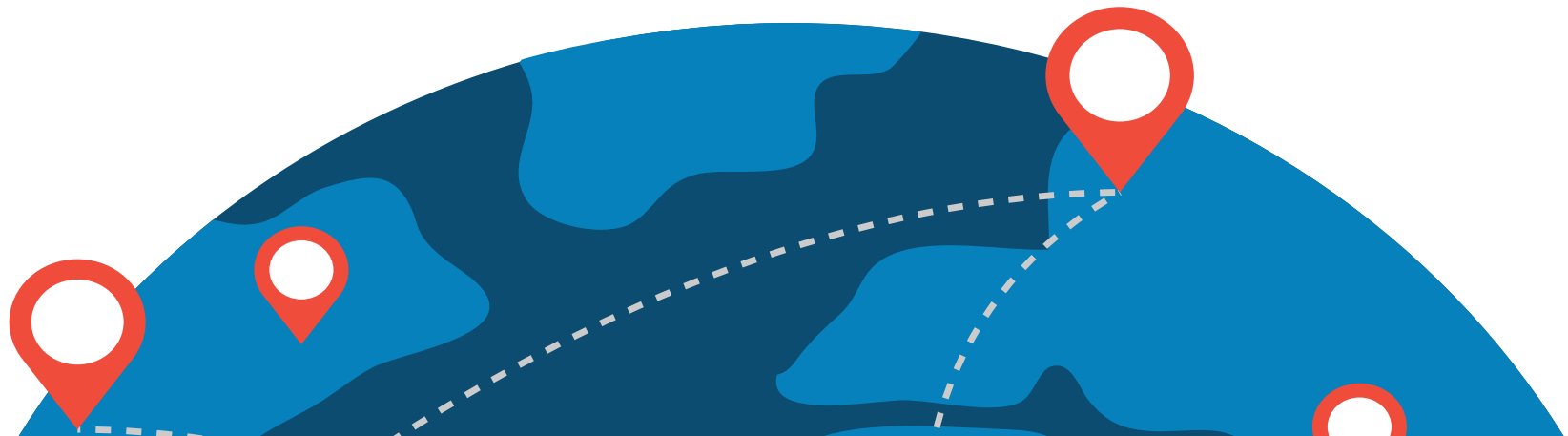
REAL-TIME INSIGHTS

One of the greatest vulnerabilities supply chains face is a lack of visibility. If supply chain managers can't see across all their operations, it raises the risk of weaknesses or even breakdowns in the supply chain that they're unaware of or notice too late. As such, it's of immense value to them to have a real-time view of their entire supply chain, empowering them with the necessary knowledge to act swiftly.

REAL-TIME INSIGHTS

NOTABLE BENEFITS

- Helps address supply chain weaknesses
- Reduces the chance of supply chain operations coming to a halt
- Gives managers an overview of the wellbeing of their supply chain



PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE

While disruption in the form of a pandemic might be an external pressure, it's equally important that supply chains secure themselves as much as possible against internal frailties. If a supply chain is continuously being slowed down due to repairs, it's being disrupted. This is where predictive maintenance comes in. Harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, it produces data about the health of equipment and machinery, ensuring neither is compromised.

PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE



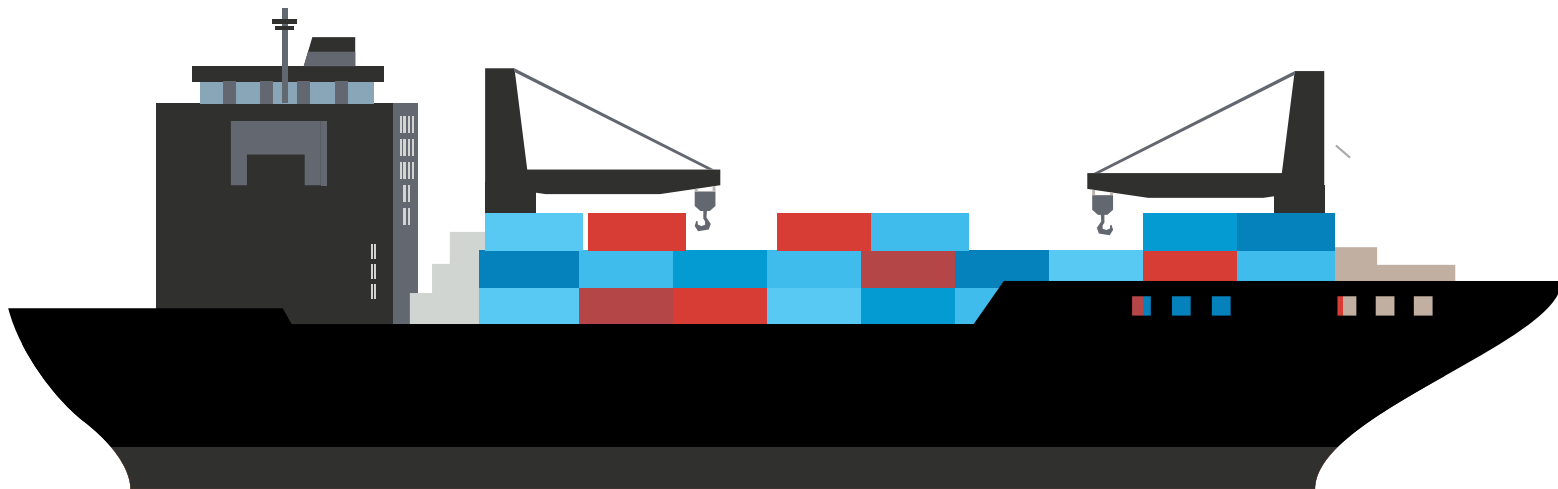
NOTABLE BENEFITS

- Prevents internal disruption via equipment or machine failure
- Ensures equipment and machinery are being properly maintained
- Provides greater confidence in the reliability of supply chain operations

CONSOLIDATED DATA

It's hard to overstate the value of quality data. It is the essence of an intelligent supply chain. It is the resource through which models, metrics, forecasting, insights, analysis, and so much become possible. Yet, data is only as valuable as what is done with it. Data that is siloed, no matter how good it is, is data that is under threat of being misused.

This is because a supply chain is a large and complex system and has many points at which data is being collected and analyzed. If all those various sites of data can't interact and are instead walled off, then the bigger picture becomes muddled. Thus, it's crucial that whatever data that's being gathered enters an integrated platform—such a platform only being viable through digital transformation.



CONSOLIDATED DATA



NOTABLE BENEFITS

- Vastly limits the possibility of information silos
- Facilitates a supply chain where its varying parts remain in line with a coherent whole
- Presents a view of the supply chain that is holistic rather than segmented

SOURCES

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